

may arise from or be incident to the use and occupation of any property affected by the operations contemplated under the project, or for damages to the property of the contractor, or for injuries to the person of the contractor, or for damages to the property, or injuries to the contractor's officers, agents, servants, or employees, or others who may be on said premises at their invitation or the invitation of any of them, and the State and the project contractor shall hold the Government and any of its officers, agents, or employees, harmless from all such claims.

(2) The Secretary of the Interior or the Director of OSM or their authorized representative may enter upon and inspect the project at any reasonable time and may confer with the contractor and the State regarding the conduct of project operations.

(3) All laborers and mechanics employed by the contractor or subcontractors on the project shall be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on similar construction in the locality as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act, as amended (40 U.S.C. 276a-276a-5). The Secretary of Labor shall have with respect to such labor standards, the authority and functions set forth in Reorganization Plan Number 14 of 1950 (15 FR 3176, 64 Stat. 1267, 5 U.S.C. 133-133z-15), and section 2 of the Act of June 13, 1934, as amended (48 Stat. 948, as amended; 40 U.S.C. 276(c)).

(4) To assure the use of local labor to the maximum extent practicable in the implementation of a project:

(i) Every contractor or subcontractor undertaking to do work on the project which is or reasonably may be done as onsite work, in carrying out such contract work shall give preference to qualified persons who regularly reside in the labor area as designated by the U.S. Department of Labor wherein such project is situated, or the subregion, or the Appalachian counties of the State wherein such project is situated, except:

(A) To the extent that qualified persons regularly residing in the area are not available;

(B) For the reasonable needs of any such contractor or subcontractor, to

employ supervisory or specially experienced individuals necessary to assure an efficient execution of the contract;

(C) For the obligation of any such contractor or subcontractor to offer employment to present or former employees as the result of a lawful collective bargaining contract, provided that in no event shall the number of non-resident persons employed under paragraph (f)(4)(i)(C) exceed 20 percent of the total number of employees employed by such contractor and his subcontractors on such project.

(ii) Every such contractor and subcontractor shall furnish the appropriate U.S. Employment Service offices with a list of all positions for which laborers, mechanics, and other employees may be required.

(iii) Every such contractor and subcontractor shall furnish periodic reports to the contracting agency on the extent to which local labor has been used in carrying out the contract work.

#### **§ 881.7 Administration of contributions.**

(a) The Government's contribution to a State will be made only pursuant to a cooperative agreement and only upon the basis of payments made, or that are then due and payable, by the State under a project contract between the State and its contractor for the construction, installation, services or work performed on individual projects and shall not exceed 75 percent of such amounts.

(b) The State shall submit to the Director, not more often than once a month and for each cooperative agreement, a separate voucher which describes each payment made or that is due and payable by the State under a project contract. The amounts claimed under each voucher shall be certified by the State as proper charges under the project contract, and the State shall also certify that the amounts have either been paid or are due and payable thereunder. Insofar as the Government's contribution payments related to amounts due and payable rather than amounts already paid, the State shall disburse such funds together with the funds contributed by the State, promptly upon receipt from the Government.

## Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Interior

## § 881.10

(c) The State shall maintain suitable records and accounts of its transactions with and payments to project contractors, and the Government may inspect and audit such accounts and records during normal business hours and as it may deem necessary.

### § 881.8 Withholding of payments.

Whenever the Secretary, after reasonable notice and opportunity for hearing, finds that there is a failure by the State to expend funds in accordance with the terms and conditions governing the Government's contribution for an approved project, he shall notify the State that further payments will not be made to the State from available appropriations until he is satisfied that there will no longer be any such failure. Until the Secretary is so satisfied, payment of any financial contribution to the State shall be withheld.

### § 881.9 Reports.

At such times and in such detail as the Secretary shall require, the State shall furnish to the Secretary a statement with respect to each project showing the work done, the status of the project, expenditures, and amounts obligated, and such other information as may be required.

### § 881.10 Obligations of States or local authorities.

(a) The State shall have full responsibility for installing, operating, and maintaining projects constructed pursuant to the regulations in this part.

(b) The State shall give evidence, satisfactory to the Secretary, that it will enforce effective safeguards with respect to installation, operation, and maintenance.

(c) The State shall agree that neither the Government nor any of its officers, agents, or employees shall be responsible for any loss, expense, damages to property, or injuries to persons, which may arise from or be incident to work upon, or to the use and occupation of any property affected by operations under, the project, and the State shall agree to hold the Government and its officers, agents, or employees harmless from all such claims.

(d) In order to assure effective safeguards with respect to installation, operation, and maintenance, the State or local authority will be required to own (or control), the land, subsurface, or coal seams in instances such as the following:

(1) If the objective of the project is to prevent or alleviate subsidence, the State or local authority shall have or acquire such subsurface and underground rights or interests in such coal seams or coal measures as may be required to assure the stability and continued existence of the project and to such an extent as will give reasonable assurance that the work will not be disturbed in the future.

(2) If the objective of the project is to rehabilitate or reclaim strip-mined areas, the land shall be owned by the Federal, State, or local body of government. Such ownership shall comprise such mineral, subsurface and underground rights and interests as will assure that no further mining operations will be conducted upon or under the land in the future.

(3) If the objective of the project is to seal abandoned open shafts, slopes, air holes and other mine openings to underground workings where public safety hazards exist, or to control or prevent erosion, water pollution, or discharge of harmful mine waters, the State shall have or acquire such right, title or interest in the lands as will assure the stability and continued existence of the project work.

(4) The extent of ownership or control necessary shall be determined with respect to each individual project.

(e) The State or local authorities, shall agree not to mine or permit the mining of coal or other minerals in the land or property owned or controlled by the State or local authorities, if required by OSM to assure the success or protection of the project work for such period of time as may be required by OSM.

(f) Upon request of OSM, the State or local authority shall furnish and disclose the nature and extent of its right, title, or interest in lands within, or which may be affected by, the project and submit an analysis, in writing, of the title situation, the effectiveness, extent and strength of the title which